

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN DEAE-00

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DRAFTED BY DEA/IGI:JWARNER:S/NM:JDMCLAUGHLIN:O

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DEA/IG:GMBELK (DRAFT)

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NEA/ARN:DAKORN

NEA/RA:RSEARING

S/NM:DHERNST

CIA:LHPIPER (SUBS)

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R 021435Z HAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

S E C R E T STATE 102608

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: OPRED - PROPOSED INCREASE IN DEA STAFFING
FOR FY-75

REF: (A) BEIRUT 4183; (B) BEIRUT 4524

1. OUR NARCOTICS CONTROL INTEREST IN LEBANON IS CONCERNED NOT ONLY WITH THE CULTIVATION, PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING OF HASHISH BUT, MORE IMPORTANTLY, WITH THE PROCESSING OF HEROIN IN LEBANON AND NEIGHBORING SYRIA AND THE TRAFFIC OF THIS PRODUCT BY LEBANESE AND OTHER MIDDLE EAST ORGANIZATIONS TO WESTERN EUROPE, CANADA, THE UNITED STATES AND THE CARIBBEAN.

2. ALTHOUGH SEIZURE STATISTICS ARE INCOMPLETE, DEA HAS
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DOCUMENTED THAT ABOUT 53 KILOGRAMS OF LEBANESE HEROIN WERE SEIZED BETWEEN 1971 AND MID-1974. TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE LEBANESE HEROIN PRODUCTION DEPENDS ON TURKISH MORPHINE BASE WHICH IS NOW IN SHORT SUPPLY. RESUMPTION OF POPPY CULTIVATION IN TURKEY COULD CHANGE THIS SITUATION.

3. RE DEA-CIA ROLES, WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT COORDINATION OF NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES IS ASSIGNED TO CIA

(STATE 230669, 23 DEC. 71), DEA IS, AT CCINC REQUEST, EXPANDING ITS FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM (SEE GUIDANCE IN STATE 015450 OF 22 JAN. 75, ESPECIALLY PARA. FOUR). INCREASING DEA ACTIVITY IN THIS AREA DOES NOT UNDERMINE CIA'S RESPONSIBILITY TO COORDINATE AND PULL TOGETHER ALL NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES. THERE ARE OTHER FACTORS WHICH DEA WOULD LIKE TO BRING TO YOUR ATTENTION, AND ON HIS NEXT VISIT TO LEBANON, RD BRIGGS WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THOSE WITH YOU.

4. ON THE OTHER HAND, DEPARTMENT HAS LONG BEEN CONCERNED TO KEEP REPRESENTATION IN LEBANON BY ALL USG AGENCIES AT ABSOLUTE MINIMUM LEVEL; CURRENT TROUBLES IN LEBANON UNDERSCORE NEED TO HOLD TO THIS POLICY. ACCORDINGLY, IF AFTER RECONSIDERATION, IT IS AMBASSADOR'S VIEW THAT ADDITIONAL DEA PERSONNEL ARE NOT REQUIRED IN BEIRUT AT THIS TIME, DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN THIS JUDGMENT. KISSINGER

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NNN

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